

# THE WHIG STANDARD.



"Flag of the free! thy folds shall fly,  
The sign of hope and triumph high."

FOR PRESIDENT,  
**HENRY CLAY.**  
FOR VICE PRESIDENT,  
**THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN.**

WASHINGTON.

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 17, 1844.

## EXTRAORDINARY PROCEEDINGS ON THE PART OF THE EXECUTIVE.

The Senate sat to a very late hour on Wednesday evening, and before adjournment removed the injunction of secrecy from the treaty and accompanying documents, and also from the very extraordinary and astounding information communicated by the Executive in regard to the steps he has deemed it proper to take in anticipation of a war with Mexico, to be brought about, if at all, by the course pursued by the United States towards a friendly and unoffending nation. This information is, in substance, that the President has directed that a military force—all the United States troops that can be spared from fortifications, &c.—be collected and concentrated upon the frontier of Texas; that the Commanding General, Gaines, has been directed to open a communication with President Houston, and hold himself in readiness to march against the Mexicans should they invade Texas. That a large naval force has also been concentrated in the Gulf of Mexico, with orders to show itself at Vera Cruz, (to intimidate the Mexicans,) and to attack and capture any Mexican vessel which shall be engaged in transporting troops or munitions of war into Texas!

From this information, communicated by the President himself, it seems he has assumed the virtual power, given to Congress alone by the Constitution, of declaring or involving this nation in war! and that, too, with a nation with whom we are on terms of amity and friendly intercourse—with whom we have no cause of quarrel, or even shadow of complaint! We look upon this proceeding as the most high-handed assumption of power, and as the most outrageous violation of the good faith and honor of the nation that has ever occurred in our history. There is, indeed, nothing to compare with it in folly and wickedness in the annals of the country—nothing.

Suppose our troops should enter Texas, claimed by Mexico as a revolted department of her territory—rightfully claimed if she can maintain her power over it—and should attack the Mexican troops; or suppose our naval squadron should seize a Mexican vessel laden with troops and munitions of war, bound to Galveston or Matamoras, would we not, without the least provocation on her part, and without even a declaration of war, have commenced hostilities? Most certainly: and in what position would we then stand before the world? Can we suppose that the civilized nations of Europe would stand by and quietly look on such high-handed proceedings. We may rest assured no. Mexico would find friends and allies not in Great Britain alone—France and every other European nation would make common cause with her. The loss of our commerce, which, under letters of marque and reprisal from Mexico, privateers manned by all nations, would sweep from the ocean like mist before the morning sun, would be one of the smallest evils we should feel. The loss of national honor and character, the contempt and distrust we should bring down upon our heads, may appear to be of small moment to those who cannot appreciate the value of national as well as individual character; but these would be gone, and we should become the scorn and by-word of all Europe, nor dare to lift up our heads among men. And for what is all this loss of character to be incurred? Simply to gratify the vanity and promote the ambitious projects of a few reckless and desperate men—men whose love of power is so great that they are willing to do any desperate and disgraceful act to retain it—even to sacrifice the nation's good name, and plunge her into a most unholy contest—a contest in which we are the aggressors, and wholly unjustified in the sight of God and man!

Let those who would thus involve us in disgrace and in infamy, be held up to public reprobation—we had almost said execration. And who are they that are thus driving the nation headlong into unprovoked hostilities? Who are they that have given directions to our land and naval forces to attack a weak, an unoffending, and a friendly nation? Let them stand before the American people abashed with shame, if men so desperate are not past feeling shame and compunction: they are JOHN TYLER and his late and present Cabinet. Their names are known to the world; let them be held responsible.

In connexion with this subject, we copy the following remarks from the Intelligencer of yesterday, penned before the injunction of secrecy was removed, and even before the information was communicated by the President to the Senate.

We have only to add the expression of our earnest hope that this subject will undergo the most thorough and searching exposition and debate in the Senate with open doors. Let the people know all.

[From the National Intelligencer.]

It came to our knowledge, rather indistinctly, sometime ago, that, even after the sort of defiance to war which the President, in his Message to Congress, delivered to the world in answer to the remonstrances of the Government of Mexico, the President of Texas could not be induced to yield his assent to the conclusion of the Treaty of "annexation" until this Government entered into certain stipulations with him, to protect him and his countrymen from the consequences which he very well knew would be likely to follow his conclusion of a Treaty of Annexation to the United States, whilst he had, at the same moment, Commissioners employed in negotiating for an armistice with Mexico. Recently it has come more particularly to our knowledge, through a channel entirely private but confided in, that there was entered into, between the authorities of the United States and the authorities of Texas, previous to the signing of the Treaty, an understanding, which, though not embodied in the Treaty, is as much of the essence, if not of equal consequence, as any provision of that Treaty, and was, with the President of Texas, *sine qua non* No. 2, if not No. 1, in the negotiation. By this understanding, if we are not misinformed, the Executive of the United States bound this Government to station on or near the Texas boundary line a force of something like a thousand infantry and several hundred cavalry, and to maintain in the Gulf of Mexico a naval force superior to any naval force that Mexico has at her disposition.

That President Houston should require such a disposition of the United States military and naval forces, whilst that requirement indicated any thing but consciousness of such national independence as qualified Texas to become a party to a Treaty of annexation to the United States, was with him doubtless a measure of wise precaution. But what shall we say of the conduct of our Executive, if it shall appear that he entered into such secret stipulations, and executed them, too, without condescending to consult the treaty-making power, and still less the war-making power? We say the war-making power; for, if the President agreed to place the land and naval forces of the United States on the land and naval frontiers of Texas, it would be for no purpose but of offence or of defence; for no purpose but to fight the battles of Texas, a foreign power.

Be that as it may, without waiting for the ratification of the written Treaty, and even before transmitting it to the Senate, the President is putting in execution his understanding with the President of Texas. The troops of the United States are already in motion. On the 27th of last month the 3d regiment of United States Infantry left Jefferson barracks, near St. Louis, for Fort Jesup, on the Texan line; and on the first day of this month the 4th regiment of Infantry received orders also to depart for Fort Jesup; the two regiments numbering eight hundred or a thousand men. Of the cavalry, several companies (late rifle) are already on the ground, (at Fort Jesup.) The stipulated amount of naval force is also under orders. The amount of force thus ordered to "rendezvous in the Gulf of Mexico" is stated in the New Orleans Bulletin of the third of this month at seventeen sail, to be under the command of Commodore Conner. These movements all corroborate the information which we have received of the stipulations into which the Executive of the United States entered with President Houston preliminary to or contemporaneously with the Treaty.

The knowledge of the existence of such stipulations is, however, not needed to give interest to the movements of these troops and ships of war in the direction which they are taking. In the absence of any such stipulations these movements would yet serve to prove that the President and his advisers are aware that they have taken a step, without the least necessity, or justification, or excuse—for no better purpose, if for any other, than that proclaimed the other day by the Tyler Central Committee, of presenting "new issues" to the People at the Presidential Election—which they know must, if they are borne out in it, bring about a war with Mexico, unless they can succeed in overruling her by a show of force, or appeasing her wounded feelings by apologies and bribes of money, such as are said to have been in advance tendered to her.

We trust that among our readers there is not one who is capable of regarding with unconcern the deliberate violation by his Government of the existing treaty of amity, of boundary, and of commerce between the United States and Mexico; nor one who does not shudder at the thought of wantonly involving the nation in a war for an object not only not essential to the national honor or welfare, but actually in itself of expediency so doubtful that many of the wisest and best of our citizens are opposed to it under any circumstances. If there be one such, however, we earnestly recommend to him to ponder well the suggestions contained in the following brief but comprehensive "communication," which caught our eye in the last number of a leading political paper in the State of New York, the weight of whose influence, ordinarily opposed to us, we are happy to have, for once, on our side of the question:

FROM THE ALBANY ARGUS OF SATURDAY.

"DO THE PEOPLE WISH WAR?—The Washington Spectator, (Mr. Calhoun's organ) while lauding Com. STEWART's letter in favor of the immediate annexation of Texas, alludes to the probability of a war with Mexico in a tone of levity if not of joy. It would be well for such politicians to remember that war is not as popular as in former times. People begin to reflect and compare its results before they plunge into its miseries. It is perceived that wars undertaken for the extension of dominion exalt the leaders and managers while they crush and impoverish the masses.

"The trappings of the war-horse and the glitter of armed legions tickle the fancy and please the eye, but the people see that they place a leaden weight upon the hand of honest labor. It is for this reason that true statesmen regard war, undertaken for such selfish purposes, as one of the greatest evils that can afflict a country."

HON. JOHN M. NILES.—This gentleman was yesterday qualified and took his seat as a Senator of the United States.

## THE GLOBE AND TEXAS.

We yesterday noticed the strange course of the Globe of the previous day in regard to the treaty of annexation. It then "took a shoot" upon the back track, and went for the treaty which it had opposed since the appearance of Mr. Van Buren's letter. Yesterday the reversed motion of its engine was stopped, and, it again made a forward movement. We make the following extract from its remarks upon the subject of annexation in its editorial of yesterday. In this portion of them we cordially concur:

"Our political opponents at home, as well as foreign nations, already charge the States of this Union with repudiating debts; and federalism has passed a bankrupt law, authorizing every voluntary bankrupt to repudiate his debts.

"If the General Government should take this step in violation of the treaty with Mexico, would the character of our country be left to our posterity the same noble and honorable inheritance which was handed down to us by Washington, Jefferson, and Jackson?

We do not believe that the great mass of our countrymen are willing to sacrifice the honor, the renown, and the real glory of this country, for any earthly acquisition. If, then, Texas has admitted, by a solemn proclamation, the existence of a war between her and Mexico—if the Government of the United States has, by a solemn official document, declared its full knowledge that this is the state of relations between Texas and Mexico—how can the President and the Senate of the United States, without sacrificing the honor of the country, adopt this war with Mexico in the face of our treaty of peace with that country? How can they do it, and save the constitution, which commits the war-making power wholly to the Congress of the United States? How stand the facts upon the documents recently transmitted to the Senate by the President of the United States?

In Mr. Upshur's letter to Mr. Murphy, dated August 8, 1843, we find the following declaration in the last paragraph:

No communication has been received from you at this department since that which enclosed President Houston's proclamation of an armistice concluded with Mexico.

## CLAY AND FRELINGHUYSEN.

We had the pleasure sometime since of publishing a song—the first or second made after the nomination of the Whig candidates for President and Vice President, which was much admired.—We did not then know to whom we were indebted for this effusion, but have since learned that it was an impromptu of the pen of the Hon. Henry Grider.

## NEW CONSTITUTION OF NEW JERSEY.

The Convention to revise the Constitution of New Jersey assembled yesterday, in pursuance of the law of the last Legislature. The Newark Advertiser presumes the labors of the Convention will result in the formation of a new Constitution rather than the revision of the old one—a close examination of which will show that, if the alterations are made which are generally agreed upon, the change will be a thorough one. Except upon a few subjects, public opinion is generally united as to the principle features of the new Constitution, and the deliberations of the Convention cannot, therefore, occupy a long time. It will be one of the most dignified and able bodies that has ever assembled in New Jersey.

We give the names of the members below:

### MEMBERS OF THE CONVENTION.

PESSAIC.—Elias B. D. Ogden, Andrew Parsons. BERGEN.—John Cassidy, Abm. Westervelt. HUDSON.—Robert Gilchrist. ESSEX.—David Naar, Elias Van Arsdale, sen., Joseph C. Hornblower, Silas Condit, Isaac H. Williamson, Oliver S. Halsted, sen., William Stiles. SUSSEX.—Joseph E. Edsall, Martin Ryerson, John Bell. WARREN.—Phineas B. Kennedy, Samuel Hibler, Robert S. Kennedy. HUNTERDON.—Alexander Wurts, D. W. Neighbor, Jonathan Pickel, Peter J. Clark. MORRIS.—Mahlon Dickerson, Francis L. Child, Ephraim Marsh, Wm. N. Wood. SOMERSET.—Peter D. Vroom, Ferdinand S. Schenck, George H. Brown. MIDDLESEX.—Moses Jaques, James C. Zabriskie, James Parker, Joseph F. Randolph. MERCER.—John R. Thomson, Richard E. Field, Henry W. G. een. MONMOUTH.—Bernard Connolly, Danl. Holmes, Thomas H. Haight, George T. Fort, Robert Laird—all Democrats, the party having refused to accept the compromise.

BURLINGTON.—Charles Stokes, Moses Willie, Wm. R. Allen, John C. Ten Eyck, John J. Spencer.

CAMDEN.—John W. Mickle, Abm. Browning. GLOUCESTER.—John R. Sickler, Charles C. Stratton.

SALEM.—Richard P. Thompson, John H. Lambert, Alexander G. Cattell.

CUMBERLAND.—Wm. B. Ewing, Danl. Elmer, Joshua Brick.

ATLANTIC.—Jonathan Pitney. CAPE MAY.—Joshua Swain.

Those in italics are Whigs. A compromise was attempted, to render the Convention free of party bias and make it a tie; this, however, was not acceded to by Monmouth county, which, by the terms, should have given 1 Whig and 4 Locos, instead of 5 Locos. This failure makes the Convention stand 30 Locos to 28 Whigs; the members, however, are the very flower of the State, and will be actuated by the general good rather than the advantage of political parties.

Philad. Forum of Wednesday.

The Lancaster Union says that the Prize Banner prepared by the Executive Committee of the Lancaster Central Clay Association, to be presented to the township or borough having the largest delegation at Baltimore, in proportion to its vote for General Harrison, was won by Marietta.

VAN BUREN IN MICHIGAN.—Mr. Baggs, the editor of the leading Democratic journal of Michigan, and a delegate from that State to the convention, has arrived in Washington. He states that when he started from home he did not dream of any division of opinion or wishes existing in the ranks of the party, as to the individual to be selected as our candidate. The first notice he had of any opposition to Mr. Van Buren, was upon his arrival at Washington, and from a member of Congress.—*Bay State Dem.*

## MR. CLAY AT HARPER'S FERRY—BOUND HOMEWARD.

On Tuesday last Mr. Clay, accompanied by one of his sons and Mr. Thomas Ewing, of Ohio, arrived at Harper's Ferry in the cars, on his way to Ashland. Great crowds of people were assembled on and about the bridge, in anticipation of his arrival, and twenty-six salutes were fired, making the mountains re-echo the loud welcome.

On Mr. C.'s appearance, the multitude sent up loud and hearty shouts, and every one was eager to see and press the hand of the great statesman. Cheers were also given for Thomas Ewing.

Mr. C. only remained the usual time for dinner at Mr. Carroll's Hotel, and passed onward, amid the renewed and long-continued cheers of the people.

The occasion, though brief, was one of great interest to hundreds who had never before seen Mr. Clay, and his easy and happy manner made every one feel as if talking to an old and familiar friend.—*Charlestown Free Press.*

The Hon. John Wentworth, the same person who was so anxious to meet John Quincy Adams "face to face, and hurl back his federal lies in his teeth," in a late letter published in the Democrat speaks of Mr. Clay as a "political Robespierre." This is cruel! We remember to have seen somewhere the following anecdote, which we would commend to our member's perusal:

A company composing a part of Napoleon's army was passing through a small town which had suffered in a recent skirmish. The leader of the company was saluted by a shrill voice crying, "Tell your General that I have no kind of respect for him." "I will madam," said the polite officer, "but you have no idea how it will hurt his feelings!"—*Chicago Jour.*

NEW JERSEY.—THE OLD HUNKERS TRIUMPHANT.—There was a large gathering of the Locos, at New Brunswick, on Friday evening last. The meeting was got up by the association opposed to Van Buren, under the immediate charge of the renowned Col. Zabriskie, for the purpose of selecting a fresh delegate for the 4th District to Baltimore, to go dead against Van. Zabriskie and his place-man, finding the Tyler plank sinking, made a desperate rally for Stewart, Cass and Buchanan, but the Old Hunkers carried Van Buren with a rush over all his opponents; and resolutions, sustaining him, were adopted as substitutes to those prepared by the managers. Right! old ones! we glory in your pluck! It is not Van who is so unpopular, but Locofocoism.—*N. York Tribune.*

As two Locofocos were discoursing rather dependently on the prospects of their party, one asked the other if it would not be better for the party to withdraw Mr. Van Buren, and substitute some one else as the Democratic candidate? To which the disheartening, but significant reply was made, "It is no time to swap horses when swimming a river!"—both giving a long sigh and separating.—*Lexington (Ky.) Inq.*

THE ARMY OF ANNEXATION.—Day before yesterday eight companies of the third regiment of the United States infantry passed down the river from St. Louis in the spacious and superb steamer Maria, bound for Fort Jesup, on the frontiers of Texas. This regiment is composed of hardy, soldier-like men, under the command of Lieut. Col. Hitchcock.

Two companies of mounted dragoons, belonging to the same regiment, not being able to find rooms for themselves and horses in the crowded boat, will soon pass down in another steamer. *Vicksburg Sentinel, May 3.*

TONAWANDA INDIANS.—We learn that "the Ogden Land Company, which purchased the Seneca Reservation, have paid the full instalment of \$50,000, at New York, and having thus fulfilled their part of the bargain, will now exact of the authorities a strict compliance with theirs by the enforcement of the law which compels the Seneca Nation to yield up their lands to the above corporation."

The chief of the Senecas, Blacksmith, was in Batavia last week, endeavoring to borrow money at one of the banks, for the purpose of delaying or preventing the consummation of the treaty. He did not succeed. Sanford, their physician, and a well educated man, for an Indian, says the Senecas cannot bear the idea of being driven out from their old homes, and that, in his opinion, great difficulty will be experienced before their final expulsion.—*N. Y. True Sun.*

TREMENDOUS RAINS.—The Springfield (Ill.) Journal says:

"Within the last two weeks this section of country has been drenched with tremendous rains; and from the fact that no eastern mail has been received for a week, we suppose that the storms must have extended some distance east. The creeks in our neighborhood have been higher than known for years; and many valuable bridges have been carried away. The Sangamo in some places has been the usual width of the Mississippi; and the water has risen nearly as high as it was in the famous year of the 'deep snow.'"

DIABOLICAL.—The "Citizen," published at Rome, N. Y., gives the following:

"While at Westmoreland, in this county, recently, a friend related to us a transaction of the most diabolical character. Some two or three weeks ago a Mr. Brainard of that town had his barn, together with its contents, burned—supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. In the commencement of last week a son of Mr. Brainard accidentally dropped a book into the well, and in endeavoring to recover it, the hook used for the purpose caught in a bag, which was examined—the contents proved to be arsenic, to the amount of twenty-two pounds."

IMPROVEMENT IN THE HARPOON.—"Villanous salt-petre," it seems, is about to be introduced even in the whale fishery. A new harpoon has been invented by a Mr. Albert Moore, of Maine, the fluke and shank of which open by a hinge, and admit the introduction into the fluke, and under the shank, of a small vial of explosive powder, which is then shut up and fastened by a wooden pin. As soon as the harpoon is thrown into the whale, the wooden pin is broken by the force of the whale pulling upon the tow line; the fluke opens, the turning of the hinge breaks the vial, and producing friction, the powder explodes and kills the whale.

The Bunker Hill Aurora says that some of the workmen in the navy yard have been obliged to sell their demands against the government at a considerable discount to raise the money for their families.

NAVAL.—The U. S. ship Decatur, and brig Porpoise, left Cape Palmas, March 10th, the former to the windward, the latter to survey Fish Town Reef.

The U. S. ship Saratoga, at Monrovia, March 9th, reported the Macedonian at Madeira, all well.

The New Orleans Picayune gives the following notice of the ouster of Judge Elliott's assistant in the naturalization frauds of that city: "Abner Phelps, against whom proceedings had been instituted before the Supreme Court by the Attorney General, to compel him to retire from the office of clerk of the city court of Lafayette, the duties of which he mal-administered under Judge Elliott, has resigned. This will put a period to the farther proceedings."

VERY LATE FROM MATANZAS.—Up to the 6th inst., arrests of those concerned in the late insurrectionary movements were being daily made. The prisons were full, and the trials progressing, about one out of every thirty being condemned to be shot. The government were using every exertion to put down the insurrection.

LATEST FROM BUENOS AYRES AND MONTEVIDEO.—The brig Jane, Captain Pinckney, arrived at this port yesterday from Buenos Ayres and Montevideo, bringing dates to the 23d March from the former, and to the 21st from the latter. We have been favored with a file of the B. A. Gaceti Mercantil, but except a few inflated accounts of the success of their army in various skirmishes against the troops of Riveira, the Montevidean General, we see but little of interest in them. The siege and blockade still continued, but with little prospect of the city capitulating, and it was thought at Montevideo that Riveira would succeed in entering and relieving the town. The French Admiral had demanded of the French residents, who were armed to the number of three thousand in defence of the town, that they should strike their flag and disband, but they peremptorily refused to do so. We learn by letters, and from the Captain, that business of every kind in both places was entirely prostrated, and the markets filled with American produce.—*U. S. Gazette.*

NAVIGATING THE YELLOW STONE.—The American Fur Company have built an elegant steamboat, of light draught of water, and sent her up the Yellow Stone with supplies for their Rocky Mountain Traders. It is expected she will be able to ascend the river two or three thousand miles above St. Louis.

The inhabitants of the ancient town of Reading, Pennsylvania, have voted to celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of that town on the 29th of the present month, which is also the anniversary of "Old Election."—*Boston Atlas.*

The death of Bartineus, the blind preacher, at Maui, Sandwich Islands, is announced. He was long an active laborer with the American missionaries. The death of this extraordinary man occurred on the 17th September, 1843, at Wailuku, Maui.

SANDS'S SARSAPARILLA.—"Felix quem facit aliena pericula cautum."—Happy are they whom others' dangers render prudent—or, to translate more freely, "It is better to borrow experience than to buy it." This maxim applies in all the concerns of life; but to none more forcibly than the use of medicine. Tens of thousands have fallen beneath the scourge of Scrofula, and the many terrible diseases to which it is akin, in its manifestations or its origin, and yet thousands similarly afflicted refuse to adopt the certain means of permanent cure which science and experience have placed within their reach. It is not so with all, however. The immense and rapidly increasing popularity of Sands's Sarsaparilla proves that thousands and tens of thousands appreciate its value; and record accumulating upon record attests their gratitude for restoration of health. There is not one of that class of diseases arising from impurity of the blood—and their name is Legion—which cannot be radically cured by this medicine.

Prepared and sold, wholesale and retail, by A. B. & D. SANDS, Wholesale Druggists, 79, Fulton st., New York.

Agents for Washington city:—ROBERT FARNHAM, Bookseller, corner of Pennsylvania avenue and 11th street, and R. S. PATTERSON, Druggist, corner of Pennsylvania avenue and 9th street.

Price \$1 per bottle; 6 bottles for \$5.

MARBLE YARD REMOVED. THE subscriber begs leave to inform his friends and the public, that he has removed his Marble Yard to E. next to the corner of 13th street, where he will continue to carry on his business of marble and free stone work, tomb stones, and monuments of all descriptions, and will continue to sell for cost all articles he has on hand.

He will also design original plans for monuments whenever requested to do so, and execute carving work of every description, and in the best style.

L. STEGANNIN, may16-3taw3m Marble Yard, cor. 13th & E. sts.

## CHEAP PRINTING, WRAPPING, AND WRITING PAPERS.

PRINTING Paper, colored medium for book covers, shoe wrapping paper, white wrapping do. for apothecaries, tea paper, envelop paper, cap and letter paper, ruled and plain, various qualities; cap paper, ruled, for \$1 62½ per ream. For sale by

WM. F. BAYLY, m16 Penn. avenue, four doors west of 11th st.

## ROSE WOOD WORK BOXES.

LADIES' Rose Wood Work Boxes, Gentlemen's Travelling Cases, Port Folios with or without locks, Ladies and Gentlemen's Pocket Books. For sale by

WM. F. BAYLY, Penn. ave., 4 doors west of 11th st.

## LOZENGES.

DR. SHERMAN'S Worm, Cough, and Camphor Lozenges. For sale by W. ELIOT & CO.,

may16-2w Corner of F and 12th sts.

## INDELIBLE INK.

KIDDER'S Superior Indelible Ink, for sale by

W. ELIOT & CO.,

may16-2w corner of F and 12th streets.

## WHARFAGE.

THE subscriber having rented the wharf at the foot of 13th street, known as Lenox's Wharf, which cannot be surpassed for convenience by any in the District, citizens of Washington, Alexandria, and others, having goods of any description to land at Washington, will be accommodated on as reasonable terms as at any other wharf in the city. There is also a large Storehouse attached, where goods can be stored at a small expense.

J. PETTIBONE & CO. may3-codlm [Alex. Gaz.]